(c) the details of policy framed by Government for the development of National Highways in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) 9 No. of improvement works amounting to Rs. 32.79 crore have been completed on National Highways 36, 37, 37A, 39 and 51 during 2003-04 entrusted to the State Government of Assam. In addition, works amounting to Rs. 18.43 crore have been executed by Border Roads Organization (BRO) and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during the same period on National Highways 37, 44, 52, 53, 54 and 151 entrusted to them.

(b) 12 No. of works amounting to Rs. 41.28 crore have been sanctioned during the current year on various National Highways in the State of Assam. An amount of Rs. 45.21 crore has been spent up to June, 2003 on the improvement works in the State of Assam.

(c) Presently, the emphasis is on improving the riding quality of all National Highways in the country including in the State of Assam.

Status of National Highway

1318. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of National Highways in terms of their maintenance;

(b) whether Government have formulated any schemes for the maintenance of National Highways;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a proposal to help the States to maintain State Highways in order to improve and develop the overall programme of Highways in the country as a whole;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to

(c) All the National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available resources. A scheme for improvement of riding quality of the existing network was also initiated by this Ministry in 1999-2000. So far about 33,000 km. length of National Highways has been improved. The remaining length is proposed to be improved under this scheme in next two years.

(d) to (f) The maintenance of State Highways is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. However, for development of State Highways and Major District Roads, the Central Government provides funds from the Central Road Fund for the works approved on the basis of the proposals received from State Governments.

National Highways in NER

1319. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of newly declared National Highways in the North-East during the last five years showing progress of work and target set for completion of each road;

(b) the status of the construction of Stilwell road beyond NH-38 after taking over as National Highway, showing sectoral progress and target set for the same; and

(c) list of roads implemented from CRF in Assam during last three financial years showing sanction and utilization thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) 11 National Highways aggregating to a length of 1697 kms. have been declared in the North Eastern Region during the last 5 years. Out of 113 improvement works sanctioned on these National Highways, 66 works have been completed and the remaining 47 works are scheduled for completion by 31.3.2005.

(b) Out of 56 kms. length of Stilwell road (NH 153), the improvement works have been sanctioned in a length of 34 kms. These works are scheduled for completion by 31.3.2005.

(c) 22 works have been completed under CRF in the State of Assam. Details are given in the Statement.